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Annette Crossan

LUD-5531.1 (09885374)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s) : Van der Bruggen et al.

Serial No. : Divisional of 09/012,818

Filed : Herewith

For : ISOLATED POLYPEPTIDES WHICH BIND TO HLA-A29 MOLECULES,
NUCLEIC ACID AND MOLECULES ENCODING THESE, AND USES
THEREOF

Group Art Unit: to be assigned

Examiner : to be assigned

February 13, 2001

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend this application as follows:

IN THE TITLE

Cancel the current title and replace with Isolated Nucleic Acid Molecules Which Encode
GAGE Genes And Uses Thereof.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, line 2: after “is” add -- a divisional of Serial No. 09/012,818, filed January 23, 1998, now abandoned which is

Page 4, line 10: after “1993” add -- now U.S. Patent No. 5,558,995 --

Page 4, line 14: after “1992” add -- now abandoned --

Page 4, line 18: after “1993” add -- now U.S. Patent No. 5,620,886 --

Page 4, line 23: after “1993” add -- now U.S. Patent No. 5,571,711 --

Page 5, line 12: change “Xaa Trp” to -- Xaa Xaa Trp --

Page 5, line 14-15: delete from “and” through “residue”

Page 7, line 16: change “HEPES” to -- Hepes --

Page 10, line 13: change “peDNAI-Amp” to --pcDNAI/Amp--

Page 10, line 14: change “protocol” to -- protocols --

Page 12, line 9: change “PCT” to --PCR--

Page 16, line 5: change “amp” to --Amp I--

Page 16, line 9: change “AMP” to --Amp--

Page 16, line 14: change “follow” to --followed--

Page 20, line 15: after “4” add --,--

Page 26, line 3: change “Solte” to --Site--

Page 33, line 7: after “25” add --,--

IN THE FIGURES

Amend Figure 8 as indicated in the attachment.

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 1-22 without prejudice

Add claims 23-31 which follow.

Claim 23: An isolated nucleic acid molecule which encodes a GAGE tumor rejection antigen precursor, the amino acid sequence of which is set forth in SEQ ID NO: 27, 28, 29, 30 or 31.

Claim 24: The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 23, having the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6.

Claim 25: Expression vector useful in producing a GAGE tumor rejection antigen, comprising the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 23, operably linked to a promoter.

Claim 26: Isolated cell, transformed or transfected with the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 23.

Claim 27: Isolated cell, transformed or transfected with the expression vector of claim 25.

Claim 28: The expression vector of claim 25, further comprising a nucleic acid molecule which encodes an HLA molecule.

Claim 29: The expression vector of claim 28, wherein said HLA molecule is HLA-Cw6 or HLA-A29.

Claim 30: Kit useful in transfecting or transforming a cell comprising:

(i) the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 23, and

(ii) an isolated nucleic acid molecule which encodes an HLA molecule.

Claim 31: The kit of claim 30, wherein said HLA molecule is HLA-Cw6 or HLA-A29.

IN THE ABSTRACT

Cancel the current abstract and replace with the following:

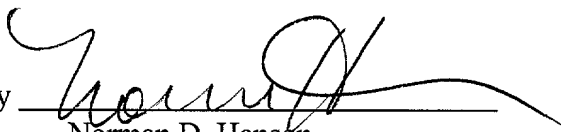
-- The invention relates to nucleic acid molecules which encode members of the GAGE family of tumor rejection antigen precursors and their use --

REMARKS

Amendments presented in the parent application have been incorporated herein. New claims 23-31 are supported by the specification. Entry of the amendment is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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